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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/696,813	10/30/2003	Cheng Chung Wang	10111394	1309

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QUINTERO LAW OFFICE
1617 BROADWAY, 3RD FLOOR
SANTA MONICA, CA 90404

EXAMINER

HEWITT, JAMES M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3679

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/696,813

Applicant(s)

WANG, CHENG CHUNG

Examiner

James M Hewitt

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 October 2003 and 16 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Higgs (US 5,249,319).

With respect to claim 1, Higgs discloses an inflatable product, including: a first chamber (32); a first pack (24, 30, 60) having an air intake connected to the outside the first chamber and first outlet connected to the inside the first chamber; a fan (50) and motor (52) received in the pack for inflating air from the outside of the first chamber through the intake into the pack and then from the air outlet into the first chamber.

With respect to claim 4, further including a second chamber (32) and two-way valve device (36) connected between the first and second chambers so that the first chamber flows into the second chamber through the two-way valve device.

In the broadest reasonable sense an air hole (36) has been interpreted as a two-way valve device.

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chaffee (US Pub. 2001/0044969 A1).

With respect to claim 1, Chaffee discloses an inflatable product, including: a first chamber (20); a first pack (see Figure 5) having an air intake connected to the outside the first chamber and first outlet connected to the inside the first chamber; a fan (86) and motor (84) received in the pack for inflating air from the outside of the first chamber through the intake into the pack and then from the air outlet into the first chamber.

With respect to claim 4, further including a second chamber and two-way valve device connected between the first and second chambers so that the first chamber flows into the second chamber through the two-way valve device. Refer to paragraph [0025].

In the broadest reasonable sense an air hole (means for improving fluid flow) has been interpreted as a two-way valve device.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hargin (US 388,037).

With respect to claim 1, Hargin discloses an inflatable product, including: a first chamber (E); a first pack having an air intake (e') connected to the outside the first chamber and first outlet (g) connected to the inside the first chamber. Hargin fails to teach a fan and motor received in the pack for inflating air from the outside of the first chamber through the intake into the pack and then from the air outlet into the first chamber. Hargin instead uses the spring-actuated lid to inflate air from the outside of the first chamber through the intake into the pack and then from the air outlet into the first chamber. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ an electrical pump comprising a fan and a motor in place of the spring-actuated lid since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to automate a manual activity. In addition, it should be understood that making such a modification is one of standard engineering knowledge and principle.

With respect to claim 2, further including a second chamber (E), the pack further having a second air outlet (g) connected the second chamber so that the fan and motor pump air into the second chamber through the second air outlet.

With respect to claim 3, further including first valve (g') for opening and closing the first outlet, a second valve (g') opening and closing the second air outlet. Hargin fails to teach a valve switch to selectively open the first valve or the second valve. The examiner takes official notice of the use a switch to selectively open a valve. And it would have been obvious to employ such a switch in order to selectively control the opening and closing of the valves (g').

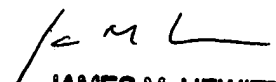
Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M Hewitt whose telephone number is 571-272-7084.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


**JAMES M. HEWITT
PRIMARY EXAMINER**